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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/630,565	07/30/2003	Henry C. Coles	200302229-2	8650

7590 10/12/2005

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P. O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

DUONG, HUNG V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2835

DATE MAILED: 10/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/630,565	Applicant(s) COLES ET AL.	
	Examiner Hung v Duong	Art Unit 2835	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 21-34 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 7, 9, 21-24, 27-29 and 31-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 8, 25-26, 30 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

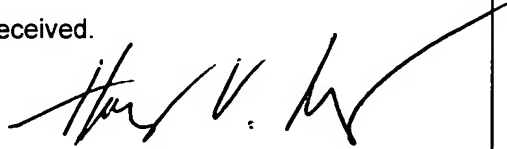
- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) **HUNG VAN DUONG**
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ **PRIMARY EXAMINER**
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____



DETAILED ACTION

1. The Notice of Allowability mailed June 1, 2005 has been VACATED.

Prosecution on the merits of this application are indicated below:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-5, 7, 21-24, 27-29, 31-34 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boulay et al (US Pat. 5,978,212).

Regarding claims 1-5, 7, Boulay et al teaches a latch member (20, figure 2) configured for securing the modular component (22) to the electronic device (10); and a release member (18) movably coupled to the latch member (20), wherein the release member (18) comprises a grip (18a) configured for bending the release member (18) to effectuate a movement of the latch member (20) to a released position wherein the latch member (20) comprises a flexible portion that is inwardly bendable with bending of the release member (18) wherein the latch member (20) comprises a fixed end and a free end adjacent the flexible portion. The latch member (20) is configured for lateral mounting to the modular

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component (22). The release member (18) is configured for mounting to an accessible side of the modular component (22). The latch member (20) and the release member (18) each comprise a fixed end configured for coupling to adjacent sides of the modular component (22).

Regarding claims 21-24, 27-29, 31-34, Boulay et al teaches a tool-free coupling (14, 20) movable between secured and released positions (secured when engaged with recesses 21, released when disengaged from recesses 21); and a bending-activated release (18) coupled to the tool-free coupling (14, 20) and configured to move the tool-free coupling (14, 20) between the latched and released positions in both directions (push to insert, pull to release). The tool-free coupling comprises an elongated flexible member having a latch. The elongated flexible member comprises a substantially flat structure having a fixed end and a movable end coupled to the bending-activated release. The bending-activated release is disposed in a first plane and the tool-free coupling is disposed in a second plane inaccessible from the first plane during mounting.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wormsbecher et al (US Pat. 6,256,204).

Regarding claims 1, Wormsbecher et al teaches a latch member (202b, 203b) configured for securing the modular component (206) to the electronic device (col. 1, lines 13-20 disk drive inserted into computer chassis); and a

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release member (204) movably coupled to the latch member (202b, 203b), wherein the release member (204) comprises a grip (col.3 lines 24-26, middle member 204 bows outward) configured for bending the release member (204) to effectuate a movement of the latch member (202b, 203b) to a released position.

Regarding claims 21, Wormsbecher et al teaches a tool-free coupling (202b, 203b) movable between secured and released positions (col.3 lines 21-23, secured when engaged with detents, released when disengaged from detents); and a bending-activated release (204) coupled to the tool-free coupling (202b, 203b) and configured to move the tool-free coupling (202b, 203b) between the latched and released positions in both directions (push to insert, pull to release).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 6, 8, 25-26, 30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art fails to show that the release member is rotatably coupled to the latch member or that the latch member and the release member are rotatably coupled at opposite ends from the fixed ends or that mounting a plurality of redundant cooling fans each having the tool-free coupling and the flex-activated release or that the bending-activated release and the tool-free

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coupling comprises first and second low-profile flexible members disposed in first and second planes, respectively.

Claims 10-16 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art fails to show that a modular housing comprising an accessible side and a lateral side; a low profile latch coupled to the lateral side; and a bowable and graspable release member coupled to the accessible side and hingedly coupled to the low profile latch.

Conclusion

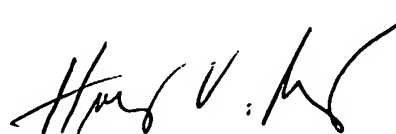
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hung Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-2041. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:30 to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn D. Feild can be reached on (571) 272-2092. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956

HVD

10/03/05.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hung V. Duong', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hung Duong
Primary Examiner.